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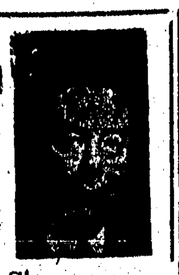

By EASLEY BLACKWOOD

It's Smart to Postpone Lead Until Ace Shows

Playing the people as well as the cards, Mr. Dale jumped to four spades when Mr. Meek raised his opening bid to two. Playing with Mr. Masters he would have bid only three spades on the second round. But Mr. Meek is very cautious, for almost every one of his bids he has a little left over.

The opening lead was the jack of hearts and Mr. Dale won in his own hand with the king. He extracted the opponent's trump in two leads, ending on the board and then paused to take stock.

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
Mr. Meek
♠ K J 3 2
♥ A 5
♦ 7 6 3
♣ K 7 4 3

WEST
Mr. Champion
♠ 8 5
♥ J 10 9 4 3
♦ A 9 5
♣ Q 9 8

EAST
Miss Brash
♠ 10 6
♥ Q 7 6 2
♦ Q J 10 8
♣ J 5 2

SOUTH
Mr. Dale
♠ A Q 9 7 4
♥ K 8
♦ K 4 2
♣ A 10 6

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 spade	Pass	2 spades	Pass
4 spades	Pass	Pass	Pass

Clearly the hand was easily makeable if Miss Brash held the ace of diamonds. In that case only two diamonds and a club would have to be lost. But that was only a 50-50 chance. Mr. Dale likes to do better than that whenever he can.

LOOKS OVER CLUBS

He turned his attention to the club suit in which the defenders held six cards. Now, a little more than one-third of the time, six outstanding cards of a suit will be divided 3-3. If the clubs were divided 3-3 here, it wouldn't make much difference who had the ace of diamonds. Mr. Dale could throw one of his diamonds on the fourth round of clubs in dummy.

There was another important consideration, however. The clubs had to be set up without giving the lead to Miss Brash, thereby preventing a lead through the king of diamonds.

So at trick four Mr. Dale cashed the ace of hearts, then led a low club from the board. Miss Brash played the deuce and the 10 went on from the closed hand. Mr. Champion winning with the queen.

POSTPONES DIAMONDS

A heart return at this point would be ruffed in dummy while Mr. Dale discarded a losing diamond from his hand. A diamond lead would make Mr. Dale's king good. Mr. Champion apparently knew these things as he returned the nine of clubs.

Mr. Dale won with the ace and led to the king on the board. When the suit broke evenly, the thirteenth club was led and Mr. Dale discarded the four of diamonds.

It was well that the diamond lead was postponed until now because Mr. Champion turned up with the ace and the defenders cashed two tricks in the suit. But Mr. Dale made his game, losing only the two diamonds and a club.

Use Want Ads—They Pay

Mrs. R. Scherk Funeral Held

Funeral services for Mrs. Audrey Ivy Scherk, 42, an active "soldier" in The Salvation Army most of her life, were held in The Citadel Monday afternoon with Senior Capt. Cyril Frayn officiating. Mrs. Scherk, wife of Raymond Scherk, 2218 Seal Cove Circle, died January 20.

Hymns sung at the service were "There's a Land That Is Fairer Than Day," "My Jesus I Love Thee," "Safe in the Arms of Jesus" and "Nearer My God To Thee." John Linney sang "Good Night and Good Morning."

Interment was at Fairview cemetery with M. Waksdale, J. Wilkie, O. Rysstad, M. Fladset, K. Wilmot and L. Dixon as pallbearers. Major W. C. Poulton officiated at the graveside ceremony. B.C. Undertakers were in charge of arrangements.

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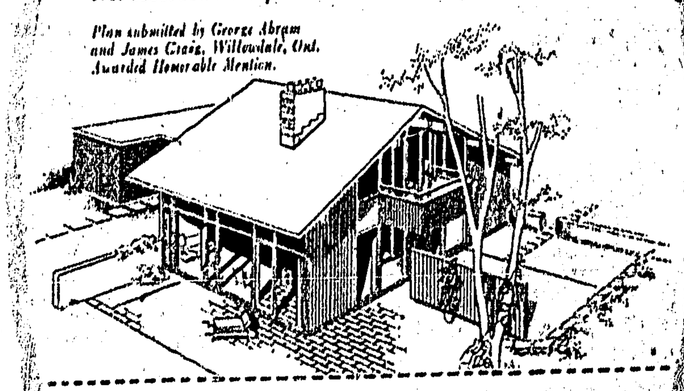
Plan submitted by George Abram and James Craig, Willowdale, Ont. Awarded Honorable Mention.



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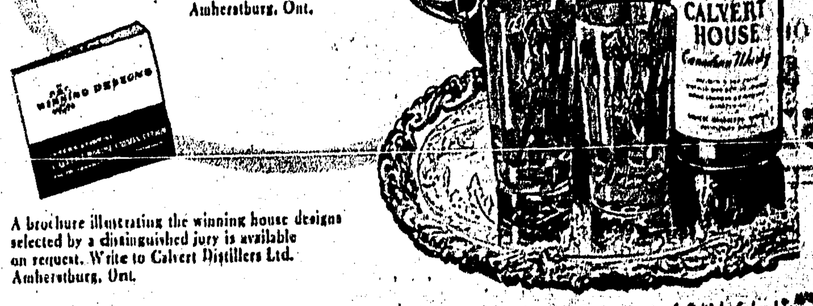

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